increasingly strong organization of the trade unions have considerably improved conditions. "Prior to 1900 there was virtually no maximum in the weekly or daily hours of work; and the best wages seldom exceeded $10 per week. To-day, the 44-hour week is the general practice, and in some instances even this has been reduced to 40 hours per week. In 1928 wages in men's clothing, which even in 1914 had averaged on §13.06, had increased to $32.16 for all workers and $40.75 for men. Cutters averaged $49.64."[1] These wages have not so far attained the level usual with American-born labour, but approach it. The Jewish workmen and their leaders have shown considerable organizing powers in the fight for higher wages. As early as 1888 they combined the different Jewish trade unions in the "United Hebrew Trades", which remains to this day their central organization. In 1897 the Yiddish newspaper *Vorwaerts* was founded as its organ, and has by now a circulation of over 200,000. It took many years for the workmen in the clothing industry to complete their organization. The American workmen in the better paid, non-Jewish industries saw in the Jew an undercutter of wages, and left him to his fate. The Jewish workmen had to look after their own interests. Only the Italians and Poles, who since 1905 have entered the clothing industry in growing numbers and who share

in it the fate of the Jews, co-operate with them. After the great strikes of 1913, the "Union of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America" was founded, and in 1928 its membership amounted to 125,000. Before the War, the Jews formed more than half of its members, in 1923 41 per cent, in 1928 38- 2, and by now there has been a further slight decrease. In the second greatest trade union in the clothing industry, the "International Ladies' Garments Workers[7] Union," with a membership of about 90,000, the Jews formed, in 1928, 63 per cent of the members. The 15,000 members of the

[1] See article by Ben. M. Selekman in *Proceedings of the National Conference of Jewish Social Service* (New York, 1930), p. 21.